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The Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME 25. CHICAGO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1871. NUMBER 127.

WASHINGTON.

Spirited Debate in the Senate on a Resolution for Final Adjournment.

An Inharmonious Caucus of Republican Senators on the Same Subject.

Significant Speeches by Dependent and Independent Republicans.

The Chicago Custom House Bill Endorsed by Secretary Boutwell.

The Specie Payment Question Considered by the House Banking Committee.

Figures from the Annual Report of the Statistical Bureau.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

RESOLUTION FOR FINAL ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Senator Morton called up his concurrent resolution to-day providing for a final adjournment of Congress on the third Monday in May. In the limited time it was under discussion, however, it was demonstrated that nothing which can possibly have any political significance can pass this present session without being thoroughly analyzed. The Clerk had hardly finished reading the resolution before Mr. Sumner got the floor and objected to its adoption at such an early stage of the session. He gave notice, however, that if the Senate should take up the resolution he would insist upon tacking thereto amendments that Congress should not adjourn until it had passed a supplemental Civil Rights bill guaranteeing protection to American citizens without distinction of color. Notwithstanding this note of defiance, Mr. Morton insisted on the propriety of adopting his resolution, and the yeas and nays were called on motion to take it up. On this Mr. Sumner's threatened amendments as to equal rights had the effect to drive all the Democrats to Morton's support, and, consequently, there were but nine votes recorded against taking it up. To be as good as his word as soon as the vote was announced Mr. Sumner got up his proposed amendments, and when he took his seat Mr. Schurz moved to amend by providing that there should be no adjournment until bills to reduce internal taxation, modify the tariff and secure reform in the civil service had also been acted upon, and then Mr. Trumbull, when Schurz had taken his seat, moved a bill that he would offer as a substitute for the combined resolution and amendments to the bill to remove political disabilities of the Southern people. He protested against any measure which would tie up the hands of Senators in future legislation, and moved to lay the original resolution and amendments on the table. On this motion the yeas and nays were called, and the motion was defeated by a vote of 31 to 23. Pending further action the morning hour expired and the resolution went over. The vote was regarded as significant, as foreshadowing how Senators will act upon the measures that will be introduced on the order for reform in the revenue, civil service and public service generally. The Republicans who united with the Democrats in voting to lay Mr. Morton's resolution on the table were Messrs. Fenton, Ferry (Conn.), Hill, Lewis, Ricc, Sherman, Sawyer, Schurz, Sumner, Tipton, Trumbull, and Wilson. Three Republicans, Sprague, Spencer, and Logan, who could have voted with the minority, were not in the Senate to-day. This is the same vote which was cast against Mr. Trumbull's original proposition calling for a Reconstruction Committee.

SENATE CAUCUS.

In consequence of the inharmonious proceedings in the open session, the Senate had been in executive session but a short time to-day when it was moved to hold a caucus, to see if some definite understanding could not be arrived at with reference to legislation, and also if there could not be an arrangement made with regard to Trumbull's proposed Reconstruction Committee without giving Republican Senators on the record as voting against it, and Democrats as favoring it. The propriety of appointing this committee was discussed for about two hours, and some bitter remarks were made thereon. Senator Chandler indulged in his usual personalities towards those who said that this committee was evil, and intimated that some of those expecting appointments on this committee would see it as an engine against the administration, and that these would-be retainers and reprobates were not a bit better than they should be. It was charged by independent Republicans that for some reason or other there was a manifest disposition on the part of the majority of the Senators to prevent any legislation whatever, as had been instanced in open session for the past three days. It was also shown that there was some agreement of some kind,—just exactly what could not be ascertained,—to secure an early adjournment, and to prevent needful measures from being enacted. Those in favor of the Retrenchment Committee regarded it as necessary at the present time, when the destruction and embezzlements were of almost daily occurrence. After about two hours of this kind of interchange of opinions, the caucus adjourned until to-morrow morning. It is very the opinion of those favorable to Trumbull's resolution that it will be defeated in caucus as the independents show no disposition to compromise short of the original proposition. A compromise will be suggested, however, in caucus to-morrow, providing for a Retrenchment Committee without limiting its powers to certain specific objects, such as the departments here in Washington. It is understood that Conkling's motion comes mainly from his desire to shield Postmaster-General Murphy.

GENERAL BULLOCK'S CASE.

Mr. Kasson, of Illinois, attempted to introduce a bill in the House, this afternoon, a resolution directing the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House of the circumstances which caused the suspension of Brevet Major-General Geo. W. Bullock, and what steps have been taken toward the settlement of his accounts. General Garfield, however, by interposing objections, prevented the desired examination.

INDIAN PENSIONS.

The House has called upon the Secretary of the Interior for copies of all his papers, reports, and letters in his possession relating to the payment of Indian pensions, bounties, and back pay.

CHICAGO CUSTOM HOUSE BILL.

Secretary Boutwell has sent a letter to the House Committee on Public Buildings, endorsing the provisions of the Farwell bill for the purchase of ground and the erection of a Custom House, &c., in Chicago.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL

will probably call for $4,000,000, and the Appropriations Committee will, as heretofore, leave the discretion of the same to the Committee on Commerce.

EIGHT HOUR RESOLUTION.

It is stated that, by the passage of Dawes' eight hour resolution, now pending in the House, the workmen in the Rock Island Arsenal will receive about $30,000 back pay, that place being one which only allowed eight hours' pay for eight hours' work.

CHEROKEE FREEDMEN COMMISSIONERSHIP.

In executive session, to-day, the Senate confirmed J. W. Douglass as Commissioner of Internal Revenue. It was anticipated that there would be some opposition to the confirmation made by General Pleasonton and his friends, but it did not get out of this character was waged in the Finance Committee, to which the matter was referred.

To the Associated Press.]

THE SPECIE PAYMENT QUESTION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The House Committee on Banks and Currency to-day had a long session over the question of the resumption of specie payments. It is the intention to report definite action will be taken on the subject by the entire committee until after the holidays.

APPROPRIATIONS CONFIRMED.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations: John W. Douglass, Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Robert C. Hutton, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth District of Michigan; Assessors of Internal Revenue—Benjamin Winters, Third District of Illinois; William L. Manning, New Mexico; Edward E. Harrison for the Sixth District of Ohio.

Consuls—Chas. A. Arthur, New Brunswick; Edward Bancroft, Savoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Germanic Empire; Thomas Smith, Surveyor of Customs at Memphis, Tenn.; Robert Johnson, Indian Agent—J. W. Armstrong, Kansas; Joseph Webster, Santee Sioux Agency, Nebraska; Joseph Batts, for Michigan; D. R. Risley for the Upper Platte Agency; Barclay White, of Iowa, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern Superintendency; W. D. Hughes, Clerk of the Assay Office at Boise City; C. A. Marcus, Assayer for Boise City; R. P. Andrews, Master of the Mint at Carson City; John E. Ranll, of Illinois, Second Assistant Post Master-General.

U. P. Postmasters—O. T. Letcher, Bryan, O.; Albert Howe, Beatrice, Neb.; William K. D. Johnson, Leavenworth, Kan.

SOLDIERS' NATIONAL ASYLUM.

The reports made at the meeting of the managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Soldiers show that over 4,000 veterans are now cared for, and that new men are coming in at the rate of ten per week, and will soon tax the asylum to their utmost capacity. A large amount of detail business was done by the board.

THE STEAMBOAT LAWS.

The Executive Committee of the National Steamboatmen's Convention assembled this morning in this city for the purpose of taking preliminary steps to revise the existing steamboat laws which have proved so burdensome to owners of all classes of steam vessels. The committee, of which Thomas Sherlock, of Cincinnati, is Chairman, and Captain E. S. Osborne, of New York, Secretary, met at 11 o'clock. It was ascertained that fourteen States would be represented. The draft prepared by the subcommittee at Pittsburgh, November 21, was presented to Congress yesterday by General Negley. The committee find that Congressmen generally favor the desired change in the laws.

RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

The Republican Senators held a caucus this afternoon on the subject of the revival of the committee on Retrenchment and Civil Service Reform. The debate was free and unconstrained, both in a national and party view. The question was not disposed of.

EXPENSE OF THE CENSUS.

The entire expense of the census is $5,297,600.

THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs will not act on General Banks' bill to carry into effect that part of the Treaty of Washington relative to the fisheries until after the holidays, but an effort will be made previously to pass an appropriation of a quarter of a million for the expenses of the Tribunal of Arbitration at Geneva.

UTAH.

Delegate Hooper returns to Utah next week. He favors the formation of a State Constitution as essential to Congress preliminary to that body's admission of Utah.

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

The annual report of the Statistical Bureau show that the value of imports for the year ending June 30, was $270,967,628. Withdrawn from warehouse, $186,630,021; free of duty, $50,163,660; additional and discretionary duties, $421,099; total, $315,799,713; duty thereon, $99,344,607.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.

HOLIDAY RECESS.

The Senate concurred in the House resolution to adjourn over from December 21 to January 3.

RETRIEVED.

At his own request, Senator Morton was relieved from his position on the Committee of Agriculture.

STATE WAR CLAIMS.

MR. WRIGHT introduced a bill appropriating $2,000,000 for the purpose of paying balances that may be found due under the act to indemnify States for war expenditures.

ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION.

Senator MORTON called up the resolution for the final adjournment on the third Monday of May.

Senator SUMNER moved that there be no adjournment until after the passage of a bill securing "equal rights, without distinction of race or color." [Laughter.]

Without acting on the motion, the Senate went into Executive session, and at 1:30 adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

NEW BILLS.

Various bills were introduced and referred, among which were the following:

By Mr. FLICK—For holding a United States District Court at Toledo, O.

By Mr. CALLADAY—Resolutions of the Tennessee Legislature for a systematic plan of meteorological observation and crop reports.

By Mr. CALDWELL—Granting 500,000 acres of public land for leveeing the Mississippi River in Kentucky and Tennessee.

By Mr. VAUGHAN—For a United States public building at Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. DAWES presented a resolution directing an investigation into the management of various Executive Departments. Adopted.

The bill consolidating the Postal laws was passed.

Mr. BINGHAM, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill fixing the first Monday of November, 1875, as the time for the Presidential election. The bill was postponed to the second Wednesday of January.

RELIEF BILL.

The bill passed for relief of purchasers of land sold for taxes in insurrectionary States.

THE GENEVA COUNCIL.

The bill for the expenses of the Geneva Council came up. Mr. BANKS explained the necessity for the immediate passage of a bill as the case on behalf of the United States to be presented at Geneva on Saturday next, but that the fullest opportunity for debating the terms of the treaty would be given after the holidays on other points, particularly in regard to the fisheries.

After a long discussion, the bill was read in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

THE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

The House went into committee, and discussed the Apportionment bill, but not much progress was made.

THE NEW YORK "LOCK-UP."

Mr. TOWNSEND, of New York, offered a resolution instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to ascertain and report whether any of the National Banks in New York were interested in connection with promoting an artificial scarcity of money. Adopted.

THE TROUBLE IN THE NAVAL SERVICE.

Mr. LEONARD MEYERS introduced a bill for the better detection and prevention of fraud in the naval service. Referred.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned.

Telegraphic Brevities.

The Pacific Insurance Company, of San Francisco, has transferred all its risks to the Liverpool, London and Globe Company, and will go into liquidation.

—The Judd abortion case at Janesville, Wis., resulted, after a trial lasting ten days, in the disagreement of the jury. Judd was charged with producing an abortion upon Mary Ann Ward, causing her death.

—George Botts, sentenced to be hanged at Newark on the 21st inst., for the murder of Pet Rice, tested, has been reprieved by the Governor of New Jersey, and his execution postponed till Friday, the 26th of January.

—About 5 o'clock yesterday morning, two freight trains collided near the freight depot of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad in Joliet. Both engines and seven cars were smashed up, but no lives were lost, except that of one fat hog. The track was cleared by 10:30, and trains are running as usual.

—A locomotive attached to a water train, on the Illinois Central Railroad, exploded its boiler on Monday night, near Centralia, Ill., instantly destroying Hench, the engineer; Brewington, fireman, and Keen, brakeman. The force of the explosion is reported as terrific, totally demolishing the engine, and blowing one of the bodies 200 feet.

—Jacob Slough, one of the firm of Acker & Slough, lumber dealers, at Broughton, Ind.; in moving a car yesterday, was accidentally caught between it and an old warehouse that they were pushing, crushed so that he died within an hour.

—In the United States Circuit Court at Columbia, S. C., R. Hayes Mitchell, of York, has been arraigned under the Ku-Klux law, on a charge of conspiracy. The jury consists of two whites and ten blacks.

—Latest advices from the Chess Congress at Cleveland leave Captain Mackenzie, of New York, ahead, he having lost only one game, and that to Mr. Hosmer, of Chicago, who was second; Mr. Eiger, of Detroit, third. The playing will probably end to-day.

—Yesterday, while a number of boys were skating on Beaver Creek, near Rochester, Pa., two brothers named Wooley, aged about 14 and 16, fell through the ice, and one of them was drowned, the other one being rescued when life was nearly extinct.

—A man aged 24 years, by the name of Frederick Cook, committed suicide by shooting himself through the forehead with a rifle, early yesterday morning, near Bucyrus, Ohio. He was found dead, leaning up against his father's barn, with the muzzle of the gun lying on his left shoulder. The right foot was divested of boot and stocking for the purpose of discharging the piece with certainty. Mr. Cook was the victim of a religious monomania.

—George Anderson and John D. Patterson, charged with the murder of Edward Cremmings, last week at Enon, Ohio, were arrested at Osborn, on Monday. While passing Enon the citizens of that place attempted to lynch them, but were prevented by the officers in charge. The affair created great excitement in that vicinity.

—An Atlanta, Ga., despatch states that a conflict has arisen between the Legislature and Governor Conley, the latter declining to recognize the right of the former to extend its session beyond the legal forty days. On Monday the Governor instructed the State Treasurer not to pay the members. It was rumored at midnight that the President would support the Governor against the Legislature.

—A despatch from Raleigh, N. C., states that both branches of the Legislature have held an excited debate upon the recent arrests for alleged Ku-Kluxism. The General Assembly authorized the Attorney of the State to apply to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of habeas corpus to test the legality of the military arrests.

—General Robert A. Hunter addressed the Cincinnati merchants on "Change yesterday, relative to the Cincinnati & Terre Haute narrow-gauge Railroad. They ask a subscription from Cincinnati of $500,000, one-half to be paid when a fifty miles of the road are ready for ties and iron, the remainder at the completion of the road. The people along the route had subscribed, he said, nearly $300,000, and would soon swell the amount to $750,000. The road is intended to pass through Lawrenceburg, Ripley, Decatur, Bartholomew, Brown, Monroe, Owen, Clay, and Vigo Counties, Indiana, with a branch running from Bloomington through Green and Sullivan to the Wabash River. While the road lays a fine agricultural district, the resources of iron and coal which it reaches are specially urged as an inducement for Cincinnati support.

—The *Daily Eagle* of Grand Rapids has taken action in prohibiting the selling of liquor to married men without the written consent of the wife. Lost men, yeas, 9; nays, 22.

Mr. RANGS moved to amend by providing that no liquor dealers shall give bond in the sum of $15,000 to sell liquor in accordance with the law. Pending consideration of the amendment, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ROAD TAX.

The Committee on Counties, &c., reported back the bill abolishing the *per capita* tax for roads, with an adverse recommendation, and it was dismissed by postponement.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

The same committee reported back favorably the bill authorizing county boards to enforce the laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

HORNY RESOLUTION.

Mr. KING, of Cook, obtained leave of absence for the Committee on Burnt Records to visit Chicago, Saturday.

PARCHUE BILL.

The Senate bill on practice was reported back from the Judiciary Committee, with sundry amendments, which were adopted.

INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

The Judiciary Committee reported back several bills, with the recommendation that they be indefinitely postponed, which was agreed to.

THE COOK COUNTY BILL.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the apportionment bill.

Mr. MASON offered as an amendment the plan for the apportionment of Cook County which bears his name.

Mr. FLEHARTY offered a substitute for the entire bill, dividing Cook County according to Mason's plan, and spoke in favor of his measure, which was he thought more equitable than the committee bill, and just as good for the Republican party.

The substitute was lost—ayes, 37; noes, 73.

Mr. SULLIVAN offered as a substitute for Mr. Mason's amendment the plan of division, known commonly as the Democratic division, and explained the different propositions. He was in favor of entirely disconnecting the county towns from the city, on account of their diversity of interests.

The Chair suggested that there should be order, and objected to holding half a dozen caucuses in the hall.

Mr. KING, of Cook, thought as far as population was concerned, the plans were very much on a par. A majority of the delegation seemed to prefer the Mason plan.

Mr. GALLOWAY defended and explained, district by district, the apportionment which bears his name, and stated that the difficulty had arisen from putting the Ninth, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Wards together. He then criticised the Mason plan, and pointed out what he thought to be its defects. He proposed to stand by the bill as it was, and not depart from it in any respect.

Mr. CAMPBELL opposed the Galloway plan, and preferred that of Mr. Mason to it. He thought it convenient to divide the city into six districts, so that they might serve as a basis for electing aldermen.

Mr. WILLIAMSON supported Galloway's plan, which met with the approbation of the agricultural part of Cook County. He was opposed to overslaughing the agricultural districts in electing County Commissioners, the county had really three districts, namely, those Mr. Hitchcock and General White were not their representatives of the county. Mason's plan he utterly objected to.

The county favored adding Hyde Park and Lake to Chicago, since they were identified with it.

Mr. HINCHCLIFF spoke against Mr. Galloway's plan. If, as the author said, it tended to put Chicago which sided homogeneous, he was in favor of mixing up rich and poor together, and persons attempting to base districts on one single classification would never be re-elected.

Mr. FELLS, after reviewing the different plans, concluded that the Mason bill was for the House to apportion Cook County. The substitute was lost—yeas, 38; nays, 67.

Mr. MASON'S amendment was lost—nays, 82; yeas, 61.

Mr. AUSTIN moved to amend by adding Cicero to the district composed of both the Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards. There was no objection among the people.

The amendment was lost—yeas, 34; nays, 47.

The committee rose.

In the afternoon consideration of the bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. JOHNSON offered an amendment to alter the bill except in the first two districts, and explained and defended it at length.

Mr. NEECE and NORTH favored the amendment, and Mr. MERRITT opposed it, since it would cost the Democrats two districts.

Further amendments was lost—yeas, 59; noes, 72.

Mr. MORRIS offered an amendment to put together Bureau and Henry, Rock Island and Mercer, and Stark and Knox. He spoke in favor of it. The amendment was lost.

The numbers of some were changed, and an attempt was made to change the line of the first district, being that the first Senators elected from even numbers hold for four years.

Mr. MASON moved to unite Schuyler and Fulton together, instead of Fulton and Mason, was adopted.

A motion to take Hardin out of one district and put it in another one was lost.

Mr. PHELPS offered an amendment to divide Cook County, which was ruled out of order.

The following is the proposed route of the Grand Duke: He leaves Boston on Thursday morning for Montreal, arriving there on Friday, and remaining until Monday, when he leaves for Ottawa. On Tuesday he leaves Ottawa for Toronto, remaining until Friday, when he leaves for Niagara, and the next day arrives at Buffalo. On Sunday, 24th, he leaves there for Cleveland. Thursday, 28th, he leaves there for Detroit; on Saturday 30th, leaves Detroit for Chicago. The precise day of the departure of the Prince of Wales the route may be changed.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Record of Yesterday's Proceedings in the Illinois General Assembly.

The Entire Day Spent on the Apportionment Bill in the House.

Final Passage of the Chicago Land Condemnation Bill.

Bill Authorizing the Sale of Real Estate for Taxes Passed in the Senate.

The Committee on Burnt Records Authorized to Visit Chicago.

ILLINOIS.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

THE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 12.—The House spent the entire day on the Apportionment bill. Many amendments were offered, not only to change the districts in Chicago, but throughout the entire State, and were urged, especially the Cook County ones, with great vehemence. None of them were successful, however. It has been pretty evident for some time that the bill reported by the committee was to be passed just as it stood, and to-day the amendments were voted down as steadily as they were presented. A certain number of Democrats, whose districts were fixed just as they wanted them in the bill, voted against all attempts to alter it, and left their Northern brethren decidedly in the lurch. The discussion of the proposed Cook County amendment was very serious to those concerned, but was listened to by the House with great amusement. Colonel Morrison's appeal to the Cook County members for Mr. Neece was based on the fact that at the last special session Neece supported Chicago legislation, while the southern Democrats, whose districts had been satisfactorily arranged by the caucus, had voted against such legislation. There was no possibility that the bill may be amended in the Senate.

THE CHICAGO LAND CONDEMNATION BILL.

The amendment to the bill providing for the United States to purchase or condemn property. This is the first bill that has passed both houses. The result is due to the per-latent efforts of Mr. Phelps, who introduced and pushed it. It now goes to the Senate, and back at once from his committee, and urged it in that body.

RECORDER'S FEES.

This morning Mr. Woodard had his bill for fixing fees of Recorder in Cook County, recommitted in order to add two more members. It will be up to pass to-morrow.

THE CREDIT FONCIER BILL.

The Committee on Corporations reported this evening in order to consider and take final action upon the bill presented by Henry Greenebaum, to bring foreign capital to Illinois. The committee to be no objections to the propositions of these bills. It is understood, and whenever the bill gets into the House it will meet with a favorable reception.

THE INSURANCE INTEREST.

Several Chicago insurance men are down here, having in charge the bill on the subject of insurance, prepared at the late National Convention. Some of its provisions not acceptable to the Insurance Committee, and the bill cannot pass as a whole.

SENATOR TINCHER ILL.

Senator Tincher was reported absent in our report of evening proceedings of the Senate. We are informed this morning that he is not quite sick at the Revere House. He has not been feeling well for the past week, and the indisposition has developed into an attack of lung fever.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

The Senate spent the day in discussing the bill in relation to the sale of liquor, which contains, among other provisions, one to make liquor dealers liable for damages done by those whom they may sell it. It will probably pass, though only a few Senators have any faith in it as a whole.

THE MAYOR'S BILL

comes up on Thursday morning, and things do not look so favorably for it as they did. The House is pretty full, and the increased opposition may be offset by the increased number in the House.

The House Sub-Committee on Fees seem to be stumped when it comes to classifying rates, and some of them have had to be called back to fall back on a uniform standard through the State.

LEGISLATIVE.

SENATE.

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 12.

The Senate met at 10 a. m., Senator Fuller presiding.

ADJOURNED.

Messrs. Boyd, Epler, Flagg, Jewett, Richardson, Voris.

FARMERS' AND FRUIT GROWERS' BILL.

House bill, to incorporate farmers' and fruit growers, was taken up on special order and passed—yeas, 36; nays, 10.

SHOOTING MASTERS.

Mr. LANING offered a resolution directing the Secretary in calling the roll to call the President of the Senate and each member of the Senate in advance of such President and employees.

Mr. DORE did not see any good in publishing the list of absentees.

Mr. HUNTER characterized such publication as an attempt to degrade Senators in the estimation of their constituency.

Mr. LANING said it was a hardship to arrive in the Senate chamber 10 minutes after roll call, be read all day, and not be published as an absentee. To which reporters beg leave to reply that no such thing has been done, for the reason that no roll call at all, but absentees are not of "from actual observation. If a Senator arrives after roll call, he is not in his place, he is not "present" at all.

The Senate refused to suspend the rule for the consideration of the resolution. Laid over.

Mr. MILLER, of Cook, presented a petition against the consolidation of the Illinois Central Railroad.

Mr. PIERCE offered a resolution setting forth that members elected to fill vacancies are entitled to the constitutional "fifty dollars;" also to mileage.

The rules were suspended, and the resolution taken up.

Considerable discussion arose upon the motion of Mr. STREVELL to refer the resolution to the Committee on the Judiciary for an opinion as to the constitutionality of the matter.

The resolution was referred.

OATHS.

Mr. RANGS offered a resolution directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of abolishing all oaths, and to provide for suitable punishment for "lying contrary to law."

NEW BILLS.

Mr. EDDY introduced a bill to amend the School law.

Mr. ALEXANDER introduced a bill to regulate banks and banking.

Mr. HOWARD introduced a bill to define the jurisdiction of cities and towns bordering upon the Ohio River.

BRIDGE BILL.

Senate bill 200, assenting to the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River, at Cape Girardeau, passed—yeas, 37; nays, none.

FEES AND SALARIES.

Senate bill 226, to reduce fees of Clerks of Circuit Courts, *ex-officio* Recorders of Deeds, in counties of 70,000 and upwards; to fix the compensation for said clerks; to provide for the payment of fees, perquisites, and emoluments above $2,500 into the County Treasury, was taken up.

Mr. STREVELL had doubts of the constitutionality of the bill.

It was recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SALE OF POISONS.

Senate bill 224, regulating the sale of poisons, was taken up for a third reading. Various objections being raised, the bill was recommitted to the select committee of five consisting of Messrs. Bowman, Hallo, Drs. Pierce, Dougleit, and Linvile.

RECORDERS OF DEEDS.

Mr. STREVELL introduced a bill to provide for the collection of all fees in counties of 50,000 and upwards.

LAND CONDEMNATION BILL.

House bill 68, to cede jurisdiction to the United States over certain land and for the condemnation thereof, was taken up and passed—yeas, 39; nays, 2—Anderson and Washburn voting no.

Mr. LANGLEY, while voting aye, has a doubt about the right of the General Government to condemn land in the State for any other State.

TAX COLLECTION.

Senate Bill 205, for the collection of revenue and sale of real estate for non-payment of taxes or special assessments for State, county, municipal purposes, was taken up and passed—yeas, 40; nays, 1.

Mr. BELL voted no.

LIQUOR BILL.

Senate Bill 228, to protect against the evils resulting from the sale of intoxicating liquors, was taken up.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved a reference of the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary. Lost—yeas, 14; nays, 27.

Mr. DONAHUE moved to amend by striking out of Section 4 the clause which makes it unlawful for any person to get intoxicated, and personally to be liable to the selling of liquor to any person in such condition to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and is specially urged as an inducement for Cincinnati support.

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Mr. FELLS, after reviewing the different plans, concluded that the Mason bill was for the House to apportion Cook County. The substitute was lost—yeas, 38; nays, 67.

Mr. MASON'S amendment was lost—nays, 82; yeas, 61.

Mr. AUSTIN moved to amend by adding Cicero to the district composed of both the Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards. There was no objection among the people.

The amendment was lost—yeas, 34; nays, 47.

The committee rose.

In the afternoon consideration of the bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. JOHNSON offered an amendment to alter the bill except in the first two districts, and explained and defended it at length.

Mr. NEECE and NORTH favored the amendment, and Mr. MERRITT opposed it, since it would cost the Democrats two districts.

Further amendments was lost—yeas, 59; noes, 72.

Mr. MORRIS offered an amendment to put together Bureau and Henry, Rock Island and Mercer, and Stark and Knox. He spoke in favor of it. The amendment was lost.

The numbers of some were changed, and an attempt was made to change the line of the first district, being that the first Senators elected from even numbers hold for four years.

Mr. MASON moved to unite Schuyler and Fulton together, instead of Fulton and Mason, was adopted.

A motion to take Hardin out of one district and put it in another one was lost.

Mr. PHELPS offered an amendment to divide Cook County, which was ruled out of order.

The following is the proposed route of the Grand Duke: He leaves Boston on Thursday morning for Montreal, arriving there on Friday, and remaining until Monday, when he leaves for Ottawa. On Tuesday he leaves Ottawa for Toronto, remaining until Friday, when he leaves for Niagara, and the next day arrives at Buffalo. On Sunday, 24th, he leaves there for Cleveland. Thursday, 28th, he leaves there for Detroit; on Saturday 30th, leaves Detroit for Chicago. The precise day of the departure of the Prince of Wales the route may be changed.

MICHIGAN.

Commercial Convention at Detroit—Arrangements for the Reception of Alexis at Detroit—Death of an Old Pioneer—Railroad Opening.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DETROIT, Dec. 12.—A commercial convention will be held to-morrow at the Board of Trade Hall, to consider the matter of cheapening and improving the means of transportation between the Northwest and the Atlantic seaboard. A large attendance is expected.

It is hardly definitely settled that the Grand Duke Alexis will arrive in this city on the 28th or leave Saturday the 30th, the governor Baltimore and Mayor Meagher have been consulted and will win and Mayor Meagher have been consulted and will arrange for a public reception for the Imperial visitor.

Deacon William Babcock, one of the oldest settlers of Iosia County, has just died at Ionia, at the age of 88 years.

To-day the new railroad from Port Huron to Flint was formally opened by an excursion over its line, and a grand banquet at the latter place.

War Department Weather Prognostics.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The barometer will probably fall very generally on Wednesday in the Gulf and Atlantic States, with cloudy and rainy weather on Wednesday and Thursday. The low pressure in Illinois will probably move east and northeastward, preceded by southeasterly winds in the Middle States, and following to-night by increasing northwesterly winds on Lake Michigan. The areas of rain are apparently developing in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, and Louisiana.

Cautionary signals are ordered for this evening at Chicago.

NEW YORK.

Failure of the Ocean National Bank—Suspension of Cotton Firms.

The Internationalists Unsuccessfully Interview the Police Commissioners.

Daily Review of the Leading Markets.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

FAILURE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The sensation of the street to-day was the failure of the Ocean National Bank. The failure was bad one, and will probably result in winding up the institution. There are rumors afloat which are not creditable to the Bank Examiner. The bank about two years ago was robbed, and the losses it then sustained have been a great burden to it, although since its office were moved to Broadway its affairs seemed to have been improving until recently. At the Clearing House it has been debtor every day since December 4, which shows that its deposits have been of late steadily decreasing. The credit of the bank has suffered of late by reason of its supposed connection with the City Hall Ring. Wm. M. Tweed until recently having been a Director. The Clearing House Association met at 1 o'clock at the Merchants' Bank, and voted to confirm the action of the committees which, this morning, expelled the Ocean Bank from the association. In the meantime a Receiver has been appointed.

MONEY.

The money market opened with increased stringency for the stock brokers, who paid 7 per cent gold to 1-16 per cent for carrying their stock until to-morrow. It is threatened that the loaning operations will be continued through the week. After the 1 o'clock Board, the usual crowd of brokers and their clerks gathered on Broad street, and the street dealings in money commenced. After 2 o'clock, exceptional transactions took place at 1-8 per cent for turning stocks, but finally money was loaned at 7 per cent gold interest. The discount market is unfavorably affected by the high rates for money on call, and business paper passes slowly at 9 to 12 per cent.

GOLD

was heavy at 110 1-4 to 110 1-2, and the carrying rate ranged from 1-32 to 1-64 of one per cent. Thus those who are long of gold are being squeezed almost as much as those who were short of gold about two months ago. Government bonds were strong in obedience to the continued advance at American securities in London. The lower, and Stark and Knox, and spoke in favor of it. The amendment was lost.

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Mr. PHELPS offered an amendment to divide Cook County, which was ruled out of order.

Mr. MASON objected as an amendment the plan for the apportionment of Cook County which bears his name.

Mr. FLEHARTY offered a substitute for the entire bill, dividing Cook County according to Mason's plan, and spoke in favor of his measure, which was he thought more equitable than the committee bill, and just as good for the Republican party.

The substitute was lost—ayes, 37; noes, 73.

Mr. SULLIVAN offered as a substitute for Mr. Mason's amendment the plan of division, known commonly as the Democratic division, and explained the different propositions. He was in favor of entirely disconnecting the county towns from the city, on account of their diversity of interests.

The Chair suggested that there should be order, and objected to holding half a dozen caucuses in the hall.

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SMALL-POX IN CHICAGO.

Alarming Increase of the Disease in this city.

Eighty-Three Cases Reported by Dr. Rauch to Date.

The Plague Generally Confined to the Foreign Element of our Population.

Reports of the District Sanitary Inspectors to the Board of Health.

A regular weekly meeting of the Board of Health was held at No. 499 West Washington street, yesterday afternoon, His Honor Mayor Medill in the Chair. There were also present Commissioners Johnson, Hoard, and Sanitary superintendent Rauch. The Mayor's acceptance of the Presidency of the Board was read and placed on file.

REGULATING DISTILLERIES, ETC.

The Ordinance Committee submitted the following regulations concerning the erection of distilleries, slaughter houses, rendering establishments, and soap factories, within certain limits; the carrying on of business detrimental to health within the city of Chicago; and concerning the keeping of cattle within said city:

In order to promote and preserve the health of the city of Chicago, and improve its sanitary condition, the Board of Health of said city does hereby make and establish the following rules, viz:

First. That from and after the 1st day of January, 1872, no distillery, slaughter house, rendering establishment, or soap factory shall be erected or put into operation in any building not now used for such purpose of any place within the limits of the city of Chicago, except upon a permit first obtained from the Board of Health of said city.

Fourth. That, from and after the 1st day of January, no more than two head of cattle shall, at any one time, be permitted to be kept in or upon any lot or inhabitable shed or other building within the limits of said city, except a permit therefor be first obtained from the Board of Health of said city.

After two weeks' notice, changing the southern limits to Thirty-first street, and the number of cattle to three—the regulations were adopted.

WEEKLY MORTALITY REPORT.

The Sanitary Superintendent submitted his weekly returns. There were 109 deaths for the week ending December 9, and 105 for the week preceding—an increase of 24. Of the deceased 67 were males and 65 females. Three ages were: under one year, 33; from one to two, 8; two to three, 10; three to four, 5; four to five, 4; five to ten, 10; ten to twenty, 8; twenty to thirty, 15; thirty to forty, 14; forty to fifty, 8; fifty to sixty, 5; sixty to seventy, 6; seventy to eighty, 3; eighty to ninety, 1. Consumption carried off the largest number of victims, 18, scarlet fever of 6, typhoid fever of 28, other fevers of 4, and pneumonia of 6. Their nativities were as follows: Ireland, 28; Bohemia, 3; Canada, 3; native Chicago, 12; foreign Chicago, 46; other parts of the United States, 18; Denmark, 1; England, 4; Germany, 25; Holland, 2; Norway, 2; Scotland, 1; Shetland Isles, 1; Sweden, 1; unknown, 1.

The mean thermometer for six days was 17 degrees.

The mortality by wards was as follows: Third, 7; Fourth, ——; Fifth, 8; Sixth, 6; Seventh, 12; Eighth, 16; Ninth, 2; Tenth, 4; Eleventh, 6; Twelfth, 4; Thirteenth, 5; Fourteenth, ——; Fifteenth, 20; Sixteenth, 4; Seventeenth, 6; Eighteenth, 3; Accidents, 2; Barracks, 1; County Hospital, 3; Marine Hospital, 3; Small-Pox Hospital, 1; suicide, 1; manslaughter, 1.

REMARKS.

In his remarks accompanying the report, the Sanitary Superintendent said:

Compared with the previous week there is a decided decrease in the mortality returns, although no more than was to be expected from the fact mentioned that that last week the number is great for this period of the year, although there is nothing unusual in the cause of death, and the number is no greater than is to be expected from the increased population.

The effect of exposure is manifest in the increase of the number of deaths by typhoid fever, and the most marked features of the mortality this week is that there is no diminution in the number of deaths from small-pox and pneumonia. The general sanitary condition of the city remains good. No case of small-pox is reported there.

Dr. Hamill has reported cases of small-pox reported during the past week at No. 209 Noble street, No. 261 Cullerton street, No. 68 South Union street, No. 37 Throop street, No. 69 Fulton street, No. 1 Sangamon avenue, and Union street. No. 167 West Eighteenth street, No. 22 Ryan street, No. 718 South Halsted street, No. 62 South Halsted street, No. 260 Blue Island avenue, No. 1 Sangamon avenue, No. 1 Union street, No. 38 North avenue, No. 58 String street, No. 1 Sangamon avenue, No. 1 Union street, No. 67 Fulton street, No. 1 Campbell avenue, No. 726 South Halsted street, No. 719 South Halsted street, No. 819 Larrabee street, No. 525 Wentworth avenue, No. 56 South Union street, No. 1 Union street, No. 262 Indiana street, No. 198 Quincy street, No. 171 Cybourn avenue, No. 199 Quincy street, No. 171 Cybourn avenue, No. 1 Union street, No. 1 Campbell avenue, No. 1 Union street, No. 28 West Taylor street, No. 205 South Jefferson street, No. 58 South Halsted street, No. 1 Union street, No. 1 Market street, No. 31 Burlington street, No. 870 South Halsted street, No. 1 Union street, No. 1 Campbell avenue, Union street, No. 1 West Seventeenth street, No. 98 Union street, No. 1 Union street, No. 1 Union street, No. 1 South Halsted street, No. 22 Ryan street, No. 718 South Halsted street and No. 1 Campbell avenue.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the disease is increasing. In the early part of the week we reported 31 cases, and during the last week 52 cases. Many more have been reported than for the other part of the week. If the Sanitary Superintendent had not failed in my last report that there were cases not reported of the deaths of patients, and by the Sanitary Inspectors, while in the discharge of their official duties. In some cases it arose from ignorance, and in others from culpable neglect. Dr. Hamill reported that a Small Pox Hospital was a sailor who contracted the disease at Memphis. One day, during the past week, the child of an emigrant that had just arrived, and no report was made of the case to the Board of Health for many days after it had been reported that for the other part of the week. If the Sanitary Superintendent had failed in my last report that there were cases not reported of the deaths of patients, and by the Sanitary Inspectors, while in the discharge of their official duties. In some cases it arose from ignorance, and in others from culpable neglect. Dr. Hamill reported that a Small F

THE FIELD AND STABLE.

...ation in Court—Some of the Principal Causes—Why Cases of Abortion Have Increased in Frequency—Food Covered with Hoar-Frost.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Dec. 8.

ABORTION IN COWS.

...has been written on the above subject within the last five or six years, in the agricultural papers of the country. A great many complaints are heard from almost every quarter, especially from dairy districts, and sometimes very absurd, remedies have been recommended; and a great variety of probable and improbable influences ascribed—in short, almost everything that could interfere with the health of a pregnant animal,—has been accused as a cause of abortion. Some writers went so far as to impute chimerical agencies verging on the occult. Even W. Youatt, who was one of the most learned and intelligent veterinarians of England although denying the existence of a contagion, was inclined to believe in sympathetic influences.

...of the possible causes of abortion are too many to enumerate them all in a little article like this; therefore we will not pay our attention only to the principal and most frequent ones. It has been observed that cases of abortion have become more frequent during the last five to ten years, especially in dairy districts, than they have been before. If these observations are correct—we can give no reason why they should not be—what can be the cause? Is it possible that it must be either something that does not exist at all before, or that has not been present to former times as it is now. Let us not insist upon finding the causes in anything that is extraordinary and far off, but do not overlook what is near by, plain, simple and natural, or allow our imagination to run away with our better judgement, for the facts just as they present themselves will cannot be so very difficult to explain the reasons for the increasing frequency in cases of abortion. But, first, we will mention

SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES.

...mechanical violence, causing direct injuries to the womb or to the foetus: sudden fright and excitement; extraordinary or violent muscular exertion; sudden changes of the temperature; the privation of fresh air, or of nutritious, damaged and mouldy food mixed with acrid plants or resinous substances, — for instance, sprouts of potatoes, or shrubs,—or food which consists of rye, or consists partially of ergot of cakes, or of clover from fields that have been manured too late in the season with a copious dose of lime (plaster of Paris), a case of drinking water which contains to a large quantity of mineral matters, especially of iron; an irritational state of the gastric and diuretic mediations; and almost many other injurious influences, which is attended of causing abortion. Besides these agencies, abortion can also be caused by various diseases; for instance, ...not frequently observed that ...with calf have aborted ...suffering from pleuro-pneumonia, or diseases that have their seat in the ...organs of sexual inflammation of the latter, especially, is of frequent occurrence. Still, all those causes and agencies combined, probably, ...for only a small per cent of cases of abortion in ...of catarrhal affections of the mucous ...of the uterus itself, and the abnormal pressure of a bloated stomach, either upon the pregnant womb, or upon the blood-vessel in the abdominal cavity, ...ough the pregnant womb, or upon ...

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1871.

THE COMMON COUNCIL—AN INVESTIGATION WANTED.

The report of the proceedings of the Common Council, on Monday evening, goes far to confirm the impression that the corruptionists who ruled that body last year, with recruits from among those elected this year, will have a majority large enough to control it. In hot haste, and in order to anticipate any legislation by the State, they proceeded to the election of a number of city officers. For ten days before this meeting there were caucuses of the rump of the old nineteen, with their recruits; these caucuses appointed committees; candidates were interviewed, and money was demanded as the price of nomination. An Alderman stated publicly, on Monday night, that money had been demanded as the price of nomination, and asked for a postponement of the election for investigation. The motion was voted down, and the election proceeded. We understand that candidates for the several offices were required to make such deposit as they were willing to pay for an election; the man who deposited the largest pile was selected, and his election was put through on Monday evening. The candidates who were not selected state that the demand was made of them, and do not hesitate to name the person making the demand. We suppose that if the successful candidates, who are now elected for two years, and cannot be dislodged, are put upon their oaths and required to tell the truth, they can tell how much money was paid into the pool. The persons making the demand for money for nominations, now confirmed by election, represented that they controlled twenty-two votes; this number of votes was, of course, equal to an election, and excluded any hope of an opposition. The list of the Aldermen thus represented as composing the twenty-two who would vote for candidates depositing money, contained a number of those elected on the Fire-Proof ticket; and it was this fact, perhaps, to which Mr. Holden referred, when he spoke of the "purity of the Fire-Proof Aldermen." His allusion to the corruption of those Aldermen, so far as it was a sneer at the people, was unjust; the fact that an Alderman obtained his election, professing to be honest, and then as once united with the rump of the nineteen, is evidence merely that such men have betrayed the people.

We do not suppose that all the twenty-two Aldermen thus named received a portion of this blackmail extorted from the candidates; but twenty-one Aldermen united in the election of candidates who had paid for their election. To that extent they participated in the disgraceful proceeding. Though they did not sell their own votes, and received no portion of the money paid, they shielded the sale of those votes by others. These gentlemen owe it to themselves to order an investigation by a committee; and the President of the board owes it to the public, and to his own character, that he appoint a committee free of all suspicion of direct or indirect concern in the dishonest transaction.

From a Council that thus begins its proceedings, and these openly done in public decency, the people can hardly expect much. There are a number of Aldermen in that Council who can hardly afford to be dishonest, or to be silent when dishonesty is openly practised. These may be able to protect the public; but, if it is true that a majority of the whole Council is already advertised for sale, it may be taken for granted that they will act in public opinion in some other mode. The exposure of the frauds in New York, and the reforms accomplished, were the result of proceedings by a committee of citizens, acting without any legal authority, and supported only by the approval and confidence of the people.

MR. TRUMBULL ON THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The telegraph has furnished us with a tolerably full abstract of the remarks of Senator Trumbull on Monday, concerning the state of the civil service. The words of our distinguished Senator cannot fail to attract the attention and command the respect of the nation. The occasion for the speech was the introduction, by Senator Trumbull himself, of the following resolution:

Resolved, The House of Representatives concurring: That a joint select Committee of retrenchment, consisting of four members of the Senate and seven members of the House, to be appointed by the presiding officers of the two houses, and that said committee be instructed to inquire into the expenditures in all the branches of the service in the United States, and to report whether any, and what, offices may be abolished; whether any, and what, salaries or allowances ought to be reduced; what are the methods of procuring accounts to cause all such officers or agents in the care and disbursement of public moneys to render their returns; if any have been paid out illegally; whether any officer or agents or other persons have been or are charged to the public Treasury without authority of law or unnecessarily; and, generally, how and to what extent the expenses of the service of the country may be reduced, or be curtailed; and also to consider the expediency of so amending the laws under which appointments to the public service are now made, so as to provide for the selection of subordinate officers, after due examination, by proper boards, to be in connection with offices during specified terms, unless displaced upon charges preferred and sustained before tribunals designated for that purpose; and for withdrawing the public service from being used as an instrument of political party patronage; that said committee be authorized to sit during the recess of Congress, to send for persons and papers, and to report by bill or otherwise, and that said committee may appoint a clerk for six months and no more.

In advocating this, as a substitute for a resolution introduced by Senator Conkling, the chief partner of Murphy in his patriotic business of farming out the Federal patronage in New York State, Mr. Trumbull adverted to the good old days, before Jackson introduced the spoils doctrine into the civil service, and when only from five to twenty removals were made by each President, and these never for merely party causes. Those times he contrasted with the present, when one President and his Ministers make not less than *forty thousand* removals during an administration of four years, and when that consideration least thought about in making appointments and removals is that of personal fitness. From the report of a former Committee of Retrenchment, Mr. Trumbull quoted damning evidences of the waste and corruption which characterize the present systems; showed how the tribute levied in the way of warehousing charges, on the importations of hence on all the people who consume their wares, goes for the benefit of a few official favorites, and not for that of the government; how men notoriously unfit to go into the public service obtain the most responsible (and lucrative) places because of their industry in doing the dirty work of Congressional politicians. "Every Senator," said Trumbull, "knows that the principal grounds upon which office is sought or obtained now are, that the great mass of applicants had been unfortunate in business and wanted the government to give him an office by which he could retrieve his fortunes, or else upon the ground that he had been very influential at some election."

Senator Trumbull himself introduced, during the last session of the Forty-first Congress, a bill which would go far toward working the reforms which the people desire, by removing from Congressmen both the power and the temptation to dabble in this office-brokerage business; but the Senator is apparently not disposed to stop at that point, if the reform can be pushed further, or if it can be forwarded more effectively by other means. He wants to see the vice reformed altogether, and is evidently of opinion that a thorough examination of the whole subject by an energetic joint committee, in addition to the investigations which have already been made, is needed to get the merits of the matter justly before Congress and before the country.

We presume that the process proposed by Mr. Trumbull is as rapid and direct as could be carried out without danger of mistakes and consequent reaction of the public sentiment. At all events, it is evidently as radical a measure as can be got through the Senate, where at least two members out of every three are under direct personal obligation to the President for official favors with which to reward their political retainers. The Senate can hardly refuse, however, to appoint a committee to investigate a subject which has become a matter of such grave and general scandal as the abuses of the civil service; and, if such committee shall be so made up as to insure a fair report, and no whitewashing, their labors cannot fail to result in much good. The report of the Retrenchment Committee of 1869 is liable to be cried down, notwithstanding the startling nature of its revelations, by the friends of the present system, who will say, "Pshaw! that was just after Andy Johnson went out. It is different now." If, as is alleged and widely believed, the system is still growing worse and worse every day, the people ought to know it, and their representatives to do their duty in the emergency. As we have said on other occasions, the Republican party cannot afford to go into the next Presidential canvass with a false standing on this most vital subject. The people are already convinced that the office-bartering system is an evil tree, bringing forth only evil fruit. Let Congress also become convinced by such legal proofs as may require. To put on record again the weighty words of Senator Trumbull, "Let us separate the Federal Government from any such use of its patronage. Let us have a higher state of morals among its officials. Let us elevate both official integrity and public authority, by insisting that the public patronage of the country shall no more be used for mere selfish and partisan purposes than the public moneys in the Treasury. Let us do this, and, with a government so purified, republican institutions may be continued; but, unless we have purity in the administration of the government, the prediction of Clay, that the republic would go down in a despotism worse than that of Constantinople, must, sooner or later, be fulfilled."

THE HODGE DEFALCATION.

What the President says in his message respecting civil service reform is all well. He tells us: "It has been the aim of the administration to enforce honesty and efficiency in all public offices. Every public servant who has violated the trust reposed in him has been proceeded against with all the rigor of the law. If bad men have secured public places, it has been the fault of the system established by law and custom, and a civil service reform which can correct this abuse is much desired, and I recommend a board of gentlemen, eminently qualified for the work, to devise rules and regulations to effect the needed reform, and it is believed that they will succeed in devising a plan which can be adopted, and which will redound to the true interest of the public service. At all events, the experiment shall have a fair trial." For all which the country is thankful, and looks on with hope; but we wish now to call attention to one case in which ought to be enforced every applicant for office, and with out which it may be considered that no man is fit for any place of official trust, and that is, that he shall be of temperate habits. It is notorious that the public service is constantly suffering from the carelessness and inefficiency of men whose intemperate habits disqualify them for the discharge of their duties. It must be admitted that no person who drinks to excess can be relied upon either for ability or for integrity, and yet it is well known that there are men now in office who are, by their habits, wholly unfit for the places they fill, and who, notwithstanding, are allowed to retain the places they hold, greatly to the public loss and public disgrace. We would ask what is the use of convening boards to devise new rules and regulations to secure honest and capable men in office, when so old and plain a rule as that requiring that men in office should keep sober is so often violated? Why establish new regulations when older and more important ones are daily broken through?

The Secretary of War, alluding to the Hodge defalcation, tells us "of the astounding frauds which have startled the country by their magnitude, and seem to defy all efforts of the earth not to go on and incur a fate like Chicago.

This revelation comes to us like a voice in the night. Perhaps we might have got along without a new interpretation of the cause of the fire; but anything which would help to solve the mystery of the flying brand was what we all thirsted for. But we conjure Mr. Honore not to put any more Mercury upon his buildings, and involve the town in another such scrape. The architecture of the rebuilt town must be "warranted free from Mercury," if such is to be the effect.

MASSACHUSETTS AND HER BORE.

The Hoosac Tunnel has again become an exciting topic in Massachusetts. The enterprise is, according to the contract with the Messrs. Shandly, to be completed by the 1st of July, 1873, and the prospects are that no extension of the time will be asked. But as the work nears its completion the question as to what to do with it after it is completed rises in importance and difficulty. Gov. Claflin has now been brought to a crisis by the alleged efforts of certain New York parties to gain possession, by purchase, of the tunnel and its railroad connections. These connections comprise the Troy & Greenfield and one or two other minor roads; and the Fitchburgh Road is expected to form a portion of the trunk line whenever the completion of the tunnel shall give to the route the dignity of a trunk line. These roads are not as yet consolidated, nor are any negotiations yet in progress, of which the public or the State authorities have heard, looking to a scheme of consolidation, or of advantageous running connections.

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A PERPETUAL OFFICE.

The Common Council, on Monday night, appointed, by an unanimous vote, Mr. John Sumerfield a Police Justice for the South Division. The city charter of 1863 (Gary's edition, p. 115) provides that "The Common Council shall, biennially, designate two or more Justices of the Peace in said city, who shall have exclusive jurisdiction as Justices of the Peace for two years, or until their successors shall be appointed," in all actions for the recovery of fines and penalties under city laws and ordinances. "The said Justices of the Peace, so designated, shall be styled Police Justices, and shall hold a Police Court in said city."

By the act of February, 1865 (Gary, 191), the Common Council shall have power to provide for the holding of a Police Court in each division, and to "designate a Justice of the Peace to hold each of said courts."

There was a State law which authorized cities to elect police officers known as Police Magistrates, to serve for the term of four years each, and "until their successors were appointed." In April, 1867, Mr. John Summerfield was elected a Police Magistrate for the city of Chicago, to serve for four years.

The Constitution of Illinois, which became the law of the State August 8, 1870, in Article VI., Sections 29, provides:

"All Justices of the Peace in the city of Chicago shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; but only upon the recommendation of a majority of the Judges of the Circuit, Superior, and County Courts, of such district as are now or may hereafter be provided by law. They shall hold their offices for four years, and until their successors have been commissioned and qualified; but they may be removed by annual proceedings in the Circuit or Superior Courts, for extortion or other malfeasance. Existing Justices of the Peace and *Police Magistrates* may hold their offices until the expiration of their respective terms."

Mr. Summerfield's term of office expired in May, 1870. He has not since been appointed a Justice of the Peace. The office he held was abolished by the constitution, and his term of office under his old election by long since expired. At the recent city election there were votes polled for candidates for Police Magistrates, but they were void, the office having been abolished. The City Clerk was so advised before the election, and since then the Governor has properly refused to commission the persons claiming to have been elected,—there being no longer any such office known to the law.

The Common Council is required by law to designate for the office of Police Justice to hold Police Court, for the trial of violators of city ordinances, a "Justice of the Peace." Mr. Summerfield is not a Justice of the Peace, nor is he a County Justice, nor yet a Police Magistrate. He holds no office of any kind to entitle him to be designated as a Justice of the Police Court.

We understand that he claims that he was elected Police Magistrate in 1867, to serve four years, and until his successor was elected; and that, as the office has since been abolished, thus precluding the election of a successor, his original term continues forever. This is a claim that in his case the office is perpetual, and that the abolition of the office does not in the least change his official functions.

The designation of Mr. Summerfield as Police Justice by the Common Council can only be explained by assuming that the members were not aware that he is no longer a Justice of the Peace, or upon the ground that Mr. Summerfield has a proscriptive right to hold office, even in defiance of the constitution and the laws of the State.

A MYSTERY SOLVED.

We have hitherto adverted to the painful lack of explanations of the cause which brought about the Chicago fire. Thus far we have not had more than a thousand of these offered, aside from the trivial physical causes assigned by matter-of-fact people,—such as drouth, high wind, wooden buildings, demoralized Fire Department, etc. All these thousand attribute the affair to the Divine displeasure; but they do not, by any means, agree as to the grounds thereof. One of the maniacs who have written on this subject, and who, unfortunately, have access to printers' types, publishes a sheet in York, Pa., for the purpose of showing that Chicago was burned because he (John Henry Deuig by name) was once arrested in Chicago as a lunatic. Another bedlamite, at Omaha, named Eleazar Hale, publisher of a paper called *The New Creation*, furnishes, however, the most interesting—indeed, we may say, exciting—interpretation of the calamity; for he associates it with a past Mystery which has heretofore agitated many a Chicago breast, without a solution being ever evolved. It was the flying figure on Honore's Block that did the business! The Delphic Hale says truly of this dread Figure, "There was a strange power in it to arrest attention. Citizens would stop in their course and look at it. None ventured an explanation." But this last statement is not strictly true. A few did attempt to explain the vision, which had, for all the world, the appearance of a colored gentleman, of phenomenal longitude, just awakened from sleep, and rushing out, without dressing, to hail a street-car supposed to be plying on the farther shore of Lake Michigan, regardless of the fact that he was about to plunge headlong in the gutter.

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"THE COMING GIRL."

Mrs Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Portrait of the Perfect Female.

The Ideal Girl to be Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise.

Wasp-Waisted Women Not Admired by Sensible Men.

Girls Urged to Study the Laws of Health, and Obey Them.

The people of the South Side showed a becoming interest in the "Coming Girl," on Monday evening, by crowding to extreme fulness the Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, to hear Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton lecture on that hypothetical young lady. The seats were all taken, and chairs had to be placed in the aisles to accommodate the press of humanity anxious in regard to the model demoiselle that is to be. Southside folk of all conditions, degrees, and sexes came to see and hear the prophetess of the divine feminine future. Among the audience were young ladies with their mammas and with their lovers, and male candidates for matrimony with their *fiancees*, or in lonely and uncomfortable pairs and triplets. Papas and mammas came arm in arm to hear of, and to deplore the many egregious domestic errors of which they had been guilty. There was a respectable showing of cynical bachelors, who were present for no good purpose it is to be presumed, but who listened with decorous gravity until the lecture closed.

It was before an audience like this that, as the organ closed its prelude, Mrs. Stanton sailed out, in all the conscious majesty of veteran womanhood. The mother of the Gracchi could not have looked more imposing, or smiled with more benign dignity. A faint odor was wafted from her garments as she swept through the chancel with her thirteen stone ayoirdupois, like the balmy breezes that blow off the shores of Araby the Blest. She was dressed simply in deep mourning for her mother, not many months deceased. There was not the glimmer of gold visible about her person. In the arrangement of her apparel there was not the suspicion of flippery or meretricious adornment. Her ornaments were of plain jet, with strings of black beads, faintly suggesting a watch somewhere in the folds of her corsage. When she smiled, she displayed two rows of excellent teeth, her own by hereditary right. When she shook her head

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

A Decided Reform in the Auditing of Bills.

Real Estate Record—Proposed Removal of the Jail—The Court House Walls.

Pursuant to adjournment the County Commissioners met in the County Treasurer's office yesterday afternoon, President White in the chair. There were also present the following Commissioners: Ashton, Crawford, Harris, Harrison, Hitchcock, Jones, Lonergan, Fahlman, Joslin, Sealy, Stearns, and Talcott.

PAUPER HIRES.

A communication was read from the County Clerk of McHenry County notifying the board that Michael Hines, of Cook County, was a pauper in that county. Referred to the approving committee.

A SUPERVISOR CASE AS POORMASTER.

A communication from ex-Supervisor E. A. Gale, of Easton, enclosing a bill of $30 for services as Poormaster, while in that board, was referred to the Committee on Miscellaneous Claims.

SHORE-HAND SERVICES.

A communication was received from J. L. Benton, with a bill for short-hand services for 24 days in the Circuit Court, the original bills having been destroyed. Referred to the Committee on Miscellaneous Claims.

DID NOT BURN THE BOILER.

A communication from George Deacon, engineer of the County Hospital, denying a statement made by a member of the board that he burnt out the boiler at the Insane Asylum a year ago, was laid on the table.

COUNTY SECTIONS FROM THE LAW RECORDS.

The Judiciary Committee presented a report recommending that copyists be employed to copy certain decisions of Judge Wallace from the *Law Record*, at a sum not exceeding $250. Concurred in.

THE NEW ROOMS.

The Chair inquired when the rooms in the new building would be ready for the board.

Commissioner Talcott thought they would be ready by January 10 or 15.

SUNDRY BILLS.

The Committee on Miscellaneous Claims, to whom were referred sundry bills, reported in favor of paying bills to the amount of $1,461.65.

Several of the bills were for "ribbon stamps." The few of the Commissioners knew what "ribbon stamps" were. Some bills bearing these items were passed round, that each Commissioner might find out.

Commissioner Hitchcock moved that the report be recommitted to the committee, with instructions to inquire how many Bailiffs are needed, and what will be a reasonable compensation.

Commissioner Harrison thought that if these men were employed by properly authorized persons, the county could not pay them legally.

The Chair was informed that their compensation was fixed at $4 a day by the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Fahlman said it was fixed by the Legislature.

Commissioner Ashton contended that that law was not repealed, having been abrogated by the Constitution.

The report was modified to suit the circumstances—the committee instructed to make inquiries as to the legality of the contract made with the Bailiffs, and to report.

Commissioner Harrison wished to express a desire that the Committee on Jail and Jail Accounts should confer with the Sheriff, and see what changes in the jail buildings were absolutely necessary. Extra help would be appointed when needed.

TOWNSHIP LAWS.

Commissioner Talcott moved that the Clerk be instructed to purchase a copy of Haine's Township Manual.

Commissioner Stearns moved that each commissioner be furnished with a copy.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION.

Commissioner Crawford moved the passage of the following preamble and resolution:

Resolved, That the Recorder be instructed to record a transaction in real estate in each Congressional district in books to be designated by their Congressional numbers respectively, instead as now required, and that the committee also report with suggestions as to the proper form of such record.

Commissioner Harrison moved to submit it to the Boards on Town and Town Accounts, with instructions to report whether, in their opinion, the keeping of the various townships would not be simplified.

The motion was carried.

The resolution was adopted.

REPORTS ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DETAINED WITNESSES.

Commissioner Hitchcock presented resolutions in relation to the communication of State Attorney Ingalls, asking for proper accommodations for detained witnesses, as follows:

Resolved, That the Cook County Jail is partly unoccupied, and is well adapted, and in such condition as to render it suitable for the use of witnesses, the insane, and persons who may be brought before the Court charged with crime; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Jail and Jail Accounts be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the expediency of removing the jail from the Court-house, and construct another in some other part of the city.

Resolved, That the Committee on City Relations be and they are hereby instructed to confer with the Mayor and Common Council of Chicago, and ascertain what, if any, arrangements can be made for the use of the old Court-house, and secure the erection of the necessary buildings for the use of the County Attorney for the jail now occupied by the City Marshal, and for such other purposes as the County may greet thereat for the use of the Criminal Court of Cook County.

The resolutions were adopted.

CLEANING THE COURT HOUSE WALLS.

On motion, the Committee on Public Buildings was authorized to contract with some responsible party to prevent their falling and the accompanying dust.

On motion of Commissioner Talcott, Mr. Nixon was authorized to put gas-lights in the County Court.

The board adjourned.

REPORTS FROM THE COURTS.

Court Rooms Assigned to the East Wing—Solicitors' Liens—The Homicide Trial Calendar—Estate Administered Upon.

LOCATING THE COURTS.

The committee of the County Commissioners met yesterday visited the east wing of the Court House for the purpose of assigning rooms therein to the several courts. It was resolved that the Criminal Court from the north wing occupies, to an upper story in the County Court its old location. The courts will be disposed of in the two upper stories of the wing, but, for some one court, according to the present arrangements, no accommodation can be furnished.

SUPERIOR COURT.

A petition to declare and enforce a mechanic's lien was filed by James H. Sullivan against Thomas Bigelow and others, upon the Mechanic's Block property, being Lots 3 to 6 and 15 to 16, Block 1, and part of Lots 7 and 17, of Bigelow's Subdivision of Block 121, School Section.

An action of assumpsit was commenced by Hall and others against the Lycoming Fire Insurance Company. The demand is for $2,000.

A like action was instituted by George A. Torrey and others against Ebenezer F. Curtiss, by which demand is made for $2,000.

CRIMINAL COURT.

It was understood that the trial of Gregory Power, one of the two indictments pending against him for murder would be commenced yesterday, the case was, however, continued, because of the illness of one of his attorneys.

The following is the order of business for the new trade: Henry Williams, to be tried Monday, Dec. 18; Andrew J. Fertect, to be tried Tuesday; Jenkins Geist, trial set for Tuesday, the 19th; Gregory Perkins case continued until Monday next.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Petitions were filed against D. R. Allen and others, to foreclose and enforce mechanics' liens by John Hunt & Co., and by Harry Byrns to affect sub-lots 1 and 2 in Lot 9, Block 48, Original Town.

COUNTY COURT.

Mary Hennebery was appointed to administer upon the estate of John F. Hennebery, under bonds of $1,000.

A Card from Captain Thomasson.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

In the report of the late arrivals at the Treasury Office, you put me down as from Paris, which might give the impression that I wrote my name in the register in this way, when a glance at the register will show plainly that I was the last of all the Americans who registered their names in 1867, and have ever since remained in Europe, I had rather live here than anywhere I have sojourned. Hastily,

NELSON THOMASSON.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.

[NOTE: The announcement of Captain Thomasson's arrival home from abroad was furnished the paper by a Tremont House clerk, who added to Parks' part, we presume, to "make it more interesting," and to give tone to his house. It is a way Chicago hotel clerks have.

Abstract-Books.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: It will be, I think, of great importance to the owners of your valuable paper to know that the old abstract firm of Williamns & Pasdeloup, formerly at 121 East Randolph street, has saved all abstract-books or copies of original examinations made by that firm, for a period of six years last past, containing over 20,000 pages of valuable information. And, as it seems that the County Commissioners are about to take some action for the restoration of titles, it would be well for them to know that fact also.

They (W. & P.) have opened an office at 112 West Madison street, near the present Court House, where all parties who, by the late fire, have lost their abstracts made by said firm, can have certified copies at fair rates.

Your kind assistance in this matter will be highly appreciated by yours truly,

F. PASDELOUP.

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 12.

In his annual report, the Secretary of the Treasury calls attention to the fact that the appreciation in the value of the paper money of the government since 1860 has been due entirely to the increased demand for it arising from its increased demand in the South and in the Western Territories. This is undoubtedly true, but it contains another truth which Mr. Boutwell seems never to have been able to understand, viz., that whatever appreciates or depreciates the value of the "paper money" of the government, appreciates or depreciates the interest-bearing debt of the government in exactly the same ratio. The business interests of this country have been oppressed with excessive taxation during three years in order to furnish a surplus revenue to the extent of over $200,000,000 with which to buy up and pay off that much of the public debt, under the plea that by so doing the credit of the government would be so much appreciated that the six per cent debt could be funded at a lower rate of interest. This has been the great argument adduced on every occasion by the Secretary, and the supporters of the taxation policy, viz., that it would appreciate the government credit, and enable the Secretary to fund the debt at a lower rate of interest. Now whatever has been the cause of the appreciation of the currency since 1860, it is apparent that it has affected the interest-bearing debt in exactly the same ratio. The average value, in gold, of the bonds purchased by the Treasury in 1869 was 96.10 on the dollar. During the same year the average price of gold was 135.36, at which price greenbacks are worth 75 1-2 in gold, showing the difference between the interest-bearing obligations and the non-interest-bearing obligations of the government to be 10 1-2 cents in gold. The present average gold value of 3-20s is about 101 1-4, and the present average gold value of greenbacks is 90.90, showing the difference between the two to be 10 1-2 cents in gold. It is plain, therefore, that the bonds and the paper money have been operated upon by the same cause. Secretary Boutwell admits that "the appreciation of the paper currency has been due wholly to the increased demand for it in the business of the country." This, then, is the cause of the advance in the value of bonds since 1869. The increased demand for currency has done all that has been done toward the much-vaunted "appreciation of the government credit." The $200,000,000 which the people have paid during three years past for the purchase of bonds has affected nothing in that way. One-third of that sum paid toward the redemption and retirement of greenbacks would have brought the entire paper currency to a par with gold, and would have placed the 5-20 bonds of the United States so far above par in gold that they would not pay more than 6 per cent on the investment in them, and would have made it possible to put enough bonds on long time at about 4 1-2 per cent. This is the great financial error of the administration, that it has heretofore favored the maintenance of heavy taxes for a purpose which it now inadvertently admits can never be accomplished by the method it proposed. The way to fund the debt at 4 per cent, debt is to appropriate the surplus funds of the Treasury to the appreciation of the "paper money" of the government to par with specie. The effect of that would be to appreciate the market value of the 5-20s so much that new 4 per cents, even 3 per cent bonds, could be negotiated at par to meet the old bonds as they matured. There would be no necessity, then, to give any Syndicate a bonus of 2 1-2 per cent in the way of a duplication of interest for six months, as Mr. Boutwell has done, to accomplish the negotiation of the $200,000,000 of new 5 per cents nominally at par.

—The San Francisco *Bulletin* of the 26th ult. comments at some length upon the condition of California insurance companies involved in the fire in this city, and says:

Complaint is made that some of the insurance companies involved in the Chicago fire, are connected with their policy-holders. These complaints, we regret to say, are well-founded. But the companies most severely criticised for this course are those which once pursuing the same policy. We are informed that no two companies all through the United States are now offering to compromise their losses by paying 30, 35, 40 and 60 per cent, and yet insisting to continue business the same as before. It is unnecessary to say that such a course does not meet the approval of policy-holders, and we should not be surprised if they sued, in a body, for their loss.

The intimation made by the *Bulletin*, that any other companies in the United States, besides those of California, are offering to compound with their policy-holders, is not true, at the same time presuming to continue business, as is insinuated. There are some New York and Connecticut companies which have given up their entire assets, which will pay only 25 to 30 cents on the dollar, and yet will reorganize, and subscribe a new capital to go on and do business under the old charters, these charters being all that was left of the former companies' assets and franchises. But there is an important difference between the case of these companies and those of California. The stock of these Eastern companies was all paid up, and the stockholders were not bound in law or honor to pay another cent. There was no individual-liability clause in the insurance laws of New York or Connecticut, and the companies of those States had never advertised as the California companies did, that their stock holders were liable and would not only pay the unpaid stock, but double the amount of their subscribed stock of necessary. The case of these Eastern companies was different also from that of the Republic of this city, which built up its business in the same way that the California companies did, viz., by advertising that its stock holders would pay the remaining 80 per cent of their unpaid stock to the amount of $1,000,000 if necessary to pay losses. Whatever censure the Eastern insurance companies may have merited—and we are inclined to believe they have merited much which they never received at all—it can not be charged to them, that they ever represented to policy-holders that they were liable for any more than the amount of stock *paid in*. It is the repudiation of these obligations that places the companies in a dishonorable light. The Republic stockholders, however, show symptoms of paying up, and we hope with the *Bulletin*, that the California companies will finally conclude to do the same. We clip from the *Bulletin* the following statement of the assessments levied by the Directors of the various companies on their stockholders, and the time when, under the law, the stockholders will be delinquent:

Company.	Per share.	Amount.	Delinquent.
Fireman's Fund	30 per cent	$300,000	November 30
Occidental	35 per cent	105,000	December 4
Pacific	75 per cent	750,000	December 14
Union	45 per cent	337,500	November 27

The above assessments aggregate $1,502,500. If not paid by the 15th of December, the stock will be sold by public auction. This rule applies to all the companies, except the Occidental, which allows delinquents until the 24th of December before selling them out. The names of the stockholders delinquent of the payment of their stock will be published before the stock is sold. The *Bulletin* says: "The stockholders of the Union Insurance Company have been very prompt in the payment of the assessments. There are 7,500 shares, and the aggregate amount of the assessment is $337,500. The delinquent list shows only 1,600 shares unpaid, amounting to $60,000.

The stockholders of the Pacific and Occidental are represented as embracing many of the leading men of San Francisco, and it seems probable they will in the aggregate do as well as the stockholders of the Union.

The upward tendency of the rate of money in New York shows that capital is being withdrawn, either from natural or artificial causes. Last week there was something of a drain in currency to the South, but as it was not large, and as there has been more coming to the West, it seems probable that the tendency of the money market toward stringency is due almost entirely to the locking up of greenbacks by a clique, whose object is to depress railway stocks preparatory to a rise in the latter part of January. It is believed that after the interest and dividend payments next month, the extreme abundance of money will cause a rise in stocks, though temporarily they may go lower than at present. All the Western roads, especially, have been doing well during the past month. The October receipts of the principal roads terminating in Chicago were diminished about 20 to 25 per cent below the average by the fire in this city, but since that time, they have been increased greatly above the average by the transportation of building materials and other causes.

The slight increase in the demand for money in the local market, noticed yesterday, continues, though the banks are still unable to use their surplus funds, and would be glad to increase their discount lines very largely.

Exchange was sold at par between banks today.

Local quotations for buying and selling local stocks and government bonds in this market this afternoon are furnished by Messrs. Lunt, Preston & Kean, as follows:

	Buying.	*Selling.*
U. S. 6s of '81	117	117 1-4
5-20s of '62	110 1-2	110 3-4
5-20s of '62 (called)	110	
5-20s of '64	110 1-4	110 1-2
5-20s of '65	111 1-4	111 3-4
5-20s of '65, January and July	113 1-4	114
5-20s of '67, January and July	115	115 1-4
5-20s of '68, January and July	115	115 1-4
10-40's	109	109 1-4
U. S. 5 per cents, (new issue)	108 7-8	
U. S. Currency 6s	113	113 1-4
Northern Pacific Gold 7-30s		100 3-4
Chicago City 7s		100
Cook County 7s		100
Gold Exchange		109 7-8
Gold and Gold Coupons	109 7-8	110 1-4
Land Warrants—160s	107	108
" —120s	132	137
Agricultural College Land Scrip		172—173

COMMERCIAL.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 12.

The following were the receipts and shipments of produce at this port during the past 7 seventy-four hours, as far as reported, with the corresponding quantities one year ago:

	Receipts.		*Shipments.*	
	1871.	1870.	1871.	1870.
Flour, brls	32,465	56,900	1,400	2,211
Corn, bu	187,598	44,176	8,044	94,905
Oats, bu	37,562	15,496	2,200	2,059
Rye, bu	3,475	725	2,000	
Barley, bu	26,018	2,849	4,433	2,000
Grass seed, lbs	53,100	20,567	47,700	25,400
Flax seed, lbs	20,000	18,360		
Broom corn, lbs	160,011	119,247	26,650	121,580
Cured meats, lbs	171,070	44,000	2874,004	491,376
Beef, brls	130	444		452
Pork, brls	619			153
Lard, lbs	340,877	91,900	2286,500	74,021
Tallow, lbs	34,410	5,600	22,000	
Butter, lbs	42,300	22,270	22,000	12,000
Dressed hogs, No	1,700	487	2,100	370
Live hogs, No	18,843	10,570	2,468	1,041
Cattle, No	1,731	988	880	258
Hides, lbs	118,234	110,000	176,200	134,870
Highwines, brls	229	156	700	100
Wool, lbs	64,329	620	129,739	17,340
Potatoes, bu	4,475	645		647
Lumber, m	568	253	688	1,271
Shingles, m	269	250	340	322
Lath, m			22	141
Salt, brls			2,950	1,401
Hay, tons			60	75

Withdrawn on yesterday for city consumption: 1,693 bu wheat, 3,985 bu corn, 1,759 bu barley.

The following grain has been received and inspected into store up to 10 o'clock this morning: 16 cars wheat, 264 cars corn, 32 cars oats, 9 cars rye, 22 cars barley. Total, 444 cars, or 175,000 bu.

The grain markets were less active to-day, and prices were generally easier, owing to larger receipts, which made offerings liberal, while buyers were correspondingly conservative in taking hold. The weakness was helped by the knowledge of the fact that shipments have fallen off to a very low point, and orders are increasing at the rate of nearly three-quarters of a million per week. At this rate the end of January would see our elevators and the cribs of Erie's factory full to overflowing, leaving two months of the winter season to take care of itself. It is probable, however, that grain shipments will be more active before long. A great many grain orders are now here, and remain unfilled simply because of the limited freedom for shipment.

Highwines were dull and 1c lower, with sales 30 brls at 91c. Offerings are still light, but New York was easier, and the demand for the holiday trade seems to have been largely filled. *Hide and tallow lackymoe.*

Dressed hogs were more active, and firmer, at 84.50@4.67 1-2, with the bulk of the sales (1,400 head) at $4.56; a part of these to arrive, were sold at $4.58. Light hogs were especially wanted for shipment, but heavy lots were also taken in sympathy. They were reported scarce in New York.

Provisions were very active, the aggregate of trading being much the largest of the season, thus far. Prices were variable, early in the evening the market was excited and higher. This morning the receipts of hogs for the day were estimated at 17,000 to 18,000, and the market for produce weakened. Soon, however, the demand set in, and prices at once rose to 5c per brl per pound higher than last night. The demand was principally for pork, and was quite general, strong on options for delivery after New Year's Day, since many orders came in from the country, the impression evidently being abroad that pork has probably seen the lowest point for some time to come, and that it depends upon the way in which hogs come in. If they do, prices are voluminous as in the past, the effect can scarcely be other than a diminution in prices. But many operators think the receipts will not be voluminous as in the past, the effect can hardly be other than a diminution in prices. But many operators think the receipts will not be voluminous as in the past, the effect can hardly be other than a diminution in prices. Lard was in fair request, and in sympathy with pork, advanced 2@2 1-2c per 100 lbs. Meats were not specially active, but ruled 1-2c per lb better all round. The market closed firm at the following range of quotations: Mess pork, cash or seller the month, $13.15@13.20; do seller January, $13.60; do seller February, $13.85@13.90; do seller March, $14.10; do seller April, $14.35. Lard, cash, or seller the month, 9 2-4c; do seller January, 7 1-2c; do seller February, 9 1-2c; do seller March, 9 3-4@9 7-8c. Green meats at 5c for shoulders; 5 1-2c for short ribs; 6c for short clear, and 6 2-4c@6 3-4c for hams. Dry salted meats dull at 4 3-4@4 5-8c for shoulders; 5 1-2c for rough sides; 6 1-8c for short ribs; 6 3-4@7 1-4c for short clear. Boxed meats 5-8@1-2c higher than the quotations for loose. Boxed Cumberlands, 6 1-2@6 1-4c; sweet pickled hams, 8@8 1-4c; mess beef, $8.00@8.25; extra mess beef, $9.00@9.25; city extra India mess, $15.50@16.00; city tallow, 8 1-4@8 3-4c. Sales were reported of 300 brls mess pork at $12.85; 2,750 brls do at $13.15; 1,500 brls do seller January at $13.60; 600 brls do at $13.45; 1,500 brls do at $13.45; 1,000 brls do at $13.50; 500 brls do seller February at $13.80; 1,000 brls do at $13.97 1-2; 500 brls do at $13.85; 1,750 brls do at $13.80; 1,250 brls do at $13.75; 1,000 brls do at $13.70; 19 brls do seller March at $16.60; 1,000 brls do seller April at $14.30; 2,500 lbs lard at 8 3-4c; 250 tcs country do at 8 1-8c; 200 tcs do at 8c@8 1-4c; 2,000 tcs do, seller January, at 9 1-4c; 400 tcs do at 9 1-8c; 200 tcs do at 9c; 400 tcs do at 9 1-8c; 200 tcs do at 9c; 40,000 lbs shoulders at 4 3-8c; 60,000 lbs do at 4 1-4c; 200 boxes do at 5 3-4c; 25 boxes do short ribs at 6c; 25 boxes rough sides at 6c; 30,000 lbs green hams at 7 1-2c; 30,000 lbs do at 7 3-4c; 100,000 lbs do at 8c; 100,000 lbs do at 8 1-4c; 50,000 lbs do at 8 3-8c; 100,000 lbs do at 8 1-2c; 50,000 lbs do at 8 5-8c; 100,000 lbs do at 8 3-4c; 100,000 lbs do at 8 7-8c; 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A NEW FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

An Ingenious Contrivance for Quenching Incipient Conflagrations—The Machine Tested Yesterday by a Boston Journalist—The Result of the Trial.

Mr. Bird, of the Boston *Advertiser*, who is on this city obtaining material for articles on the great fire, its cause, effect, etc., brought with him from the manufacturer, one of "Johnson's Patent Hydrostatic Champion Force Pumps," an ingenious little engine for quenching incipient fires. This engine, weighing about three pounds, hose included, and about the size of an ordinary walking-stick, is in extensive use in Boston and other Eastern cities. In Boston several thousand of them are scattered about the city, and have proved of immense advantage in saving property from destruction by fire. Mr. Bird is of the opinion, and his views are backed strongly by many practical thinkers in this city, that had Chicago been provided with the Johnson or some other pump of a similar nature, which anybody is capable of using, the fire would not have advanced beyond the Leary cow shed. All that is required to put one of these engines at work are a bucket of water and a muscular arm.

For the purpose of demonstrating what the pump is capable of accomplishing, Mr. Bird, yesterday afternoon, tested its capacity in the presence of Fire Commissioner Chadwick, City Treasurer D. A. Gage, Rev. Robert Collyer, and a concourse of admiring firemen, the engine having been called for the trial being the large vacant lot on the corner of Van Buren and Clinton streets. The first trial was made with three barrels of water filled with shavings and other combustible material, thoroughly saturated with kerosene. After the match had been applied, and the fire had ignited every portion of the material, the pump was set in motion, and in less than thirty seconds the flames were entirely quenched, the quantity of water expended in the operation being the amount contained in an ordinary wooden horse bucket.

A second trial was then had, this time six four barrels and a large hogshead prepared as before, being the feed given the fire-send to consume. When the flames reached full headway the little champion was set to work by Mr. Bird, and in less than a minute nothing but smoldering embers remained.

As a *finale*, Mr. Bird, with the kind assistance of several firemen, got up a bonfire on an extensive scale, not less than a dozen barrels and hogsheads, filled with shavings, etc., and saturated with kerosene, being used. When this mass had been burning five minutes or more, the piston of the pump was set in motion, and while standing the fact that the water reservoirs had to be shifted to all sides of the fire, the flames were quenched in about a minute, with the expenditure of about four buckets of water.

These tests seemed to demonstrate the fact that any ordinary fire in a building can, if attended to instantly, be quenched by one or more of these small engines without resorting to the steamers. The pump used in the tests yesterday is capable of throwing a stream of water horizontally a distance of forty or fifty feet, with considerable force. As before stated, all that is required to set it in operation is a bucket of water and a muscular arm.

Mr. Bird has no interest in the Johnson pump, either as agent or proprietor. He simply brought it along with him to show to the Fire Department and all others interested in the preservation of property against the devastating element which recently swept over our city.

AMUSEMENTS.

A NEW PLAY AT THE GLOBE.

The new play, "Bertha, or the Sewing Machine Girl," was brought out on Monday evening at the Globe Theatre to a good audience, who followed with much interest the development of the rather intricate plot by which the young and beautiful heroine, *Bertha* (Miss Clara Jennings), was brought through a sea of troubles safely into the possession of a happy father, and a rich estate. The plot has been already published, and we need say no more than that *Bertha* (if beloved by a young clerk, named *Philip Hamilton* (Howard), who only succeeds in wedding her after they both exposed the chicanery of *Lizette Graham*, who worked in the same shop, and loved *Philip*; of *David Carter*, who wanted *Bertha* ruined, and held her putative father by the throat; of *Ben Hampton*, the son of her employer, who also sought first to compass her ruin, and then, being foiled in a few other incidental bad people, with whom the play abounds much more plentifully than with good ones. The play is one of considerable interest, and the thread of the narrative is a well wrought one, except in a few instances, as for instance, where *Lizette* counterfeits the handwriting of *Bertha* in the rooms of *Bertha's* mother, where she is in danger of interruption, she could have better done it elsewhere. The different characters were generally well sustained, the hitches being no more numerous than is usual on a first presentation. Miss DeBar's action was full of pathos, and Mrs. Osmond, as the *Miss Charity Pinch* of the concern, who "got more work out of her girls than any other concern could," showed in the trial scene that, notwithstanding her sex she could play a very respectable *Robin Sleek-style*, though she did forget something "that bar'l of apple sass." The part of the *Imp* of the piece, *Lizette*, was taken and admirably taken, by Miss Burt. "Bertha" will be repeated every evening until further notice.

MICHIGAN AVENUE THEATRE.

The bill at the Michigan Avenue Theatre during the week is "Milky White" and "Cox and Box." The latter piece has been largely refitted, and thoroughly pleased with the entertainment afforded. The cast of the Buildings was: *Milky White*, Ryan; *Dick Dugan*, Giddens; *Archibald Good*, Bruce; *Amelia White*, Miss Goodall; *Mrs. Sedrod*, Miss White. The comic portions are portrayed in the usual ludicrous humor by Ryan and Giddens, and the pathos in all respects effective. The costumes show as careful accuracy as usual, and all details of the representations are as well attended to as circumstances will permit. "Cox and Box" is a musical extravaganza, built upon the slender framework of the familiar farce of that name. Various operas are made to do duty for the songs, as well as a specimen of the original "Ghost of Macbeth." The piece is now given for the first time in this country, and is said to be very popular, but not enough so to afford a serious. The singing, of course, is not always elaborate and true to the score, but good enough for the purpose, and really better than the average of such farces. Miss Goodall represents the part of *Jane Bruce* that of *Cox*, and Giddens is a sort of military landlord, who mixes up his tactics and his letting of lodgings in the most amusing manner. All the actors play with more than ordinary energy, and the performance is nightly received with bursts of laughter.

THE MINSTRELS.

That the people of Chicago are inseparably wedded to burnt-cork entertainment was abundantly proved by the fine audience which overflowed the office of Arlington's Minstrels on Monday evening; by the crowded state of the little hall directly in the rear of the "Opera House?" and by the uproarious mirth and satisfaction with which the programme was received. Even Horace Greeley (or his double), occupying an eligible seat, was convulsed by Cotton and Arlington.

The first part was noteworthy for the hearty and deserved reception which was accorded to those old stagers in the line, Cotton and Bemble. The necessities of the occasion "shifted ends" with the former, but he evinced no less proficiency with the bones than he had already shown with the banjo. The dignity of the polyesthetic middleman has not decreased by his late trip, and he helped Arlington to thoroughly mix things on several occasions. The solo and chorus feature of the entertainment (as it always should be in minstrelsy), and it is very rare that an audience is treated to so much real music as that contained in Dwyer's two ballads, coupled with the unctuous humor of Cotton's "Miss Jones's Party" and Arlington's "Hen Convention." "Jumbo Jim's College," with a new banjo-jig, finished the first part.

In the miscellany Arlington's banjo and Price's "Haunted House" with Richie Powers and Johnson, and their like have spoiled the city for not strictly first-class—even after the fire. Taken as a whole, Mr. Arlington's company maintains its reputation, and the performance of the company is entirely the best "since the fire."

The Washtel concert or concerts, which had been talked of for Chicago this week, will not be an exception from their great town versus rural *engagelli*, the time being reported "too tired" to sing. It is still possible that a few nights of opera may be given during February, if a suitable theatre can be had, in which case Herr Wachtel will appear in his favorite *roles* in "Postilion de Lonjumeau," "Huguenots," "William Tell," and "Trovatore." For the opera season, Lichtmay will be the prima donna soprano; Wenzig, baritone; Hesselin, bass, etc.

THE FIRE PANORAMA!

The proprietors of the panorama of the Chicago fire, painted by Chicago artists, will leave with their painting to-morrow for Indianapolis. It is their intention, after their Indianapolis season, to go to Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Washington, and the New York and New England cities. It is a panorama eminently worthy of public patronage, and, having been painting by resident artists, may be relied upon both as a graphic and truthful delineation of the scenes of the great fire.

THE NORTHWEST.

ILLINOIS.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Illinois State Teachers' Association will be held at Dixon, December 26, 27, and 28, 1871. Important discussions, special treatment of high schools, intermediate and primary work, various addresses, and the presentation of methods as used with mutes, to be illustrated by Philip G. Gillett, with a class of mutes, are on the programme.

—Friends of Joseph Haven, D.D., late of the Congregational Theological Seminary in Chicago, will sympathize with the family in the loss of a daughter (Miss *Lizzie* H.), who died Friday afternoon at Rockford, where she was a teacher in the Female Seminary. She was sick but a week, with pneumonia and typhoid fever.

—The Clinton *Register* says: "It is rumored that our County Treasurer is a defaulter to the amount of $13,000 or $15,000. He left for California last week."

—The suit of the Quincy, Alton & St. Louis Railroad Company, to compel the Board of Supervisors of Adams County to pay $18,000 in bonds subscribed to that road, was decided in favor of the defendant on the 11th inst., Judge Sibley holding that the company had not complied with the conditions upon which the bonds were issued.

—A man named James Marshall was killed recently at Belleville by the caving in of a bank of earth upon him.

—The ex-soldiers of Winnebago County held their fourth annual reunion at Rockford on the 7th inst. An election of officers for the ensuing year was held, which resulted in the unanimous choice of H. P. Holland for President, and Giles C. Hard, Vice President; N. C. Warner, Recording and Corresponding Secretary; Thomas W. Cole, Treasurer. There was also the customary banquet and good times with the boys.

—Colored children have at last entered the schools of Galesburg.

IOWA.

Propositions have been made to establish a Catholic seminary in Sioux City.

A 12-year-old lad named Barry, who lives near Grundy Centre, was kicked by a horse last Tuesday, the kick cutting off the upper half of his ear, leaving the severed part hanging by a small piece of skin. A physician stitched it on, making it as good as new.

—The thermometer at Keokuk showed a change of 29 degrees in 24 hours last Wednesday, the most rapid meteorological change, according to the *Gate City*, ever experienced there.

—The winter course of lectures at Dubuque was opened Friday evening, December 8, by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

—Keokuk has established a ten-cent course of lectures, by employing home talent exclusively.

—The latest freak of nature is an animal at Council Bluffs, which is half horse and half cow.

—A new National Bank has just been established at Bloomfield, with a capital of $250,000.

WISCONSIN.

A line of stages is now running from Duluth to Superior City, eight miles, on the ice.

—Winad Smooth, Chief of the Umatilla Indians, has given $5 to the Wisconsin sufferers.

INDIANA.

Judge John S. Scott, of Orange Township, Fayette County, aged 72 years, dropped dead, last Saturday, while walking on the streets of Rushville.

—A dreadful affair occurred at Columbus on last Tuesday night. A short time after supper a young man named Kerr went to his room in the Jones House, and, on the entrance of his roommate a short time after, he was discovered lying on the floor with a hot stove partly across his body. The alarm was given, the fire put out, and the unfortunate man carried into the air, though he survived but a few minutes. He is supposed to have fallen in an epileptic fit, to which he was occasionally subject.

MINNESOTA.

The Hon. N. F. Randolph, an old and leading citizen of Wabashaw County, died at his residence in Mount Pleasant, after a short illness, on the 21st inst.

—On Tuesday evening last a fire destroyed the billiard hall of P. Gibson, of Read's Landing, the dwelling house of W. W. Sloeum, and damaged the Bullard House.

—General Levi Nutting, of Faribault, while standing on a table fixing some windows in his house, on Tuesday last, fell, and striking his nose against a screw-driver, suffered a fracture of that useful appendage to the human face.

KANSAS.

Captain King, of the *Kansas Magazine*, has been presented with a $100 gold watch.

—The receipts of the Fort Scott Canal Company amount to about $450,000 per annum.

—King, the principal owner of the King Bridge Manufactory, at Ioia, has sold his interest therein for the little sum of $200,000. T. B. Mills, one of the other proprietors, has been elected to the Legislature.

—The Wathena *Reporter* is responsible for the following: "About four weeks ago the wife of a farmer living near Geary City died. Last Sunday the bereaved and sorrow-stricken husband sent to Doniphan for a minister to come and preach her funeral sermon, and then marry him to a gushing damsel he had selected to cheer him in his loneliness. The minister declined to comply with his request."

THE FAR WEST.

The Pueblo *People says*: A preacher not a thousand miles from Pueblo, and who engages in frequent wild land speculations, has the following good story told of him. Preaching not long since on the line of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, near Fontaine qui Bouille, he opens services with a rather abstracted air, as follows: "My text, brethren, will be found in the First "pistle to Timothy, Section 15, Township 20 south, Range 65 west."

—Grant is very plentiful about Greeley (Col.), the colonists having all they can do in keeping antelope and jack-rabbits from taking possession of the city.

—It has been estimated that since the discovery of gold in Colorado, California Gulch Mining district has produced over $2,500,000 in dust.

—Mining operations for coal have commenced in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

—The Washington Territory Legislature is about to pass a mammoth land grab.

—The surplus yield of wheat in Oregon for this year is estimated at 1,500,000 centals.

—Over five years have elapsed since Grant County, Oregon, has sent a man to the Penitentiary.

—The Prescott (Arizona) *Miner* of the 28th ult. publishes a letter from King S. Woolsey, from the Lower Gila River. That section is literally alive with Mexican bandits, plundering settlers, robbing passing trains, and escaping with their booty to Sonora. The citizens are arming and pursuing the bandits into Mexico. A reign of terror prevails on the border.

—Washington Territory is $35,000 in debt.

—Brick is being made for the sake of $20,000 in course of erection at Albany, Oregon.

—A progressive Californian proposes to manufacture gin out of sage-brush.

—The *Register* says that during the past sixteen months the Old and New School branches of the Presbyterian Church in Colorado have increased their working force from three to fourteen ministers, supplying with preaching nearly every important point in the Territory.

RAILROADS.

The Chicago & Superior Railroad Company is the title of a new company that has resulted from the consolidation of the Madison & Portage and the Rockford Central Companies. The company contemplate completing the road during the next year from Mondota, Ill., where it connects with the Illinois Central, through the Sugar River Valley, to Madison, and on to Portage and to Grand Rapids. Contracts are already let for a large portion of the work.

—The Galveston papers announce the sale, on the 1st inst., of the Galveston, Houston & Henderson Railroad (in actual running order between Galveston and Houston), the sale being made pursuant to a decree of foreclosure